

Minutes of the September 24, 2009 HP/FH Committee Meeting

Attendance

Present: Ellen Kosmer (EK), Nancy Gregg (NG) Chair, Chris Hoffmann (CH) Recording Secretary), Flo Stern (FS), Claude Tellier (CT), Walter Wolnik (WW), Roy Rosenblatt (RR) Staff

Absent: Jean Haggerty (JH),

Actions:

Called to order at 9:10am

Motion: The committee recommends that Kuhn Riddle Architects be awarded the contract to develop the schematic designs for Olympia Drive. ~~Included with this will be The Center for Design Engagement at UMass Amherst.~~ EK/WW Passed 6-0. [Second sentence subsequently amended. See below.]

Amendment: The committee recommends up to \$5000 for the inclusion of The Center for Design Engagement at UMass Amherst. CT/CH. Passed 6-0.

Discussion:

40B: Mr Rosenblatt observed that only 20% of the units at Rolling Green are “affordable”, but all 200 count toward our stock. This is not true of ownership units, but this may change. If the regulations were to change, that would be a big help in remaining above 10% affordable housing.

Olympia Drive: The full committee reviewed the minutes of the subcommittee on Olympia Drive. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed with the subcommittee that the Town Manager should pursue a contract with Kuhn Riddle Architects to create a schematic design for Olympia Drive.

There was discussion of whether the UMass Center for Design Engagement should be included in its recommendation. Building ties with UMass was considered important, so the committee decided to recommend that up to \$5000 of the money used on this project could be used for the inclusion of the Center for Design Engagement.

Housing for Homeless: Mr Rosenblatt reported that there is an empty duplex on Olympia Drive that might be used to house the homeless. Code violations would first have to be addressed. CDBG money could not be used for this as it would have to be transferred to the Amherst Housing Authority. Possibly Town Meeting could transfer some of the \$150,000 previously allocated to mortgage subsidies to fund this project. The sense of the committee was that this was worth pursuing, especially if the duplex could

be used to provide housing for families rather than individuals, as this would be an ideal location for this type of housing.

Tasks:

None.

Next meeting:

October 8th, 2009 at 9am, First Floor Mtg Room

Adjournment

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:10. CT/WW

Submitted By

Chris Hoffmann